

CITY OF HARRISONBURG ANIMAL CODES
Revised / Adopted July 2003

15-2-1.

CONDITIONS OF PREMISES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT

The party in possession or control of the premises where animals are kept shall ensure that buildings, pens or other areas where animals are kept are maintained in a sanitary, healthy condition.

15-2-2.

OWNER, CUSTODIAN TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF ALL ANIMALS

(a) The owner or custodian of any animal shall keep all of his animals under control at all times while such animals are within the city limits.

(b) "Under control" shall mean direct physical control of the animal. Voice control shall not be construed as physical control. An animal on the real property of another, whether restrained or not, without the permission of the person in possession of such real property, shall be construed to be not under control.

(c) Any person may, at any time, humanely take temporary control of any animal not under the control of its owner or custodian and immediately notify the police department.

(d) This section shall not apply to police, search or rescue dogs engaged in training activities or on official duties.

(e) The first violation of this section with respect to spayed or neutered animal shall constitute a class 4 misdemeanor. Subsequent violations of this section with respect to the same spayed or neutered animal within a one (1) year period, and all violations of this section with respect to non-spayed or non-neutered animals, shall constitute a class 3 misdemeanor, to be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than the maximum permissible by state law.

15-2-3

NUISANCES CAUSED BY COMPANION ANIMALS

(a) The custodian of any companion animal shall ensure that such animal does not constitute a nuisance to neighbors through the generation of noise, odor, or by other means.

(b) The investigating officer may, at his discretion, take temporary control of any companion animal creating a nuisance to abate the nuisance, if the owner is unable to immediately so abate. Cost of caring for the animal while under the temporary control of the investigating officer shall be charged to the custodian of the animal. The investigating officer shall ensure that the animal is cared for in accordance with standards prescribed by the state veterinarian.

(c) It shall be prima facie evidence of "nuisance" if there have been three (3) complaints of nuisance from two (2) different individuals, representing at least two neighboring residences or businesses, within seven (7) days.

15-2-4.

ALLOWING ANIMALS TO DEFECATE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY OR ON PRIVATE PROPERTY OF OTHER PERSONS.

It shall be unlawful for any owner or person in control of any animal to fail to immediately remove the fecal matter deposited by their animal on public property or on the property of another without the consent of the owner or the person having control of the premises. A violation of this section shall constitute a class 3 misdemeanor, to be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 and

not more than the maximum permissible by state law. This section shall not apply to a person with a disability being accompanied by a service dog.

15-2-5.
CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS IN VEHICLES PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to confine an animal in an enclosed vehicle so as to endanger it by exposure to excessive heat, cold or inadequate ventilation. Any animal control or other law enforcement officer may access the enclosed vehicle by any reasonable means, remove such endangered animal and take temporary control of such animal. Cost of caring for the animal while under the temporary control of the officer shall be charged to the custodian of the animal. The officer shall ensure that the animal is cared for in accordance with standards prescribed by the state veterinarian.

15-2-6.
VACCINATION OF DOGS AND CATS - REQUIRED

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or harbor any dog or cat over four (4) months of age unless such dog or cat is currently vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian against rabies.

(b) Upon vaccination of a dog or cat as required by this section, a certificate of vaccination, properly executed and signed by the licensed veterinarian performing the vaccination, shall be issued to the animal's owner by the veterinarian, who shall retain a copy of the certificate for his or her records.

(c) The certificate issued pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall certify that the dog or cat has been vaccinated in accordance with this Chapter, and shall include the following information:

- (i) The date of the vaccination;
- (ii) The date of expiration
- (iii) The rabies certificate number
- (iv) A brief description of the dog or cat and its name, age, sex and breed; and
- (v) The name and address of the animal's owner.

(d) The certificate issued pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall be preserved by the owner of the dog or cat and exhibited by the owner promptly on request for inspection by the animal control officer, other investigating officer, State Veterinarian's representative or official of the Department of Health.

(e) The first violation of this section shall constitute a class 4 misdemeanor. Subsequent violations on the same animal within a one (1) year period shall constitute a class 3 misdemeanor.

15-2-7.
SAME - EVIDENCE REQUIRED BEFORE ISSUANCE OF DOG LICENSE

No dog license shall be issued by the City Treasurer, or his or her agent, for any dog unless there is presented to the City Treasurer, or his or her agent, at the time application for such license is made a current and valid certificate of rabies vaccination which includes all of the information specified in section 15-2-6. If such dog has been successfully spayed or neutered since such time that the vaccination was obtained, the owner shall provide proof of such. Any person giving false information in the procurement of a license pursuant to this section shall be guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.

15-2-8.
DOG LICENSE TAX

(a) There shall be an annual license tax imposed upon the ownership of dogs within the City of

Harrisonburg in accordance with Sections 29-213.56 through 29-213.58 of the Code of Virginia as amended to date. The dog owner, if qualified, can request a tag for the duration of 1, 2 or 3 years. The tax shall be as follows:

The dog license tax for one (1) calendar year shall be:

For a male dog \$10.00
For a female dog 10.00
For an unsexed dog 6.00
For a kennel, which shall mean ten dog or more 30.00
In addition to the kennel fee of \$30, each dog shall have separate tags of the correct gender at the above fee schedule.

The dog license tax for two (2) calendar years shall be:

For a male dog \$19.00
For a female dog 19.00
For an unsexed dog 11.00
For a kennel, which shall mean ten dog or more 55.00
In addition to the kennel fee of \$55, each dog shall have separate tags of the correct gender at the above fee schedule

The dog license tax for three (3) calendar years shall be

For a male dog \$27.00
For a female dog 27.00
For a successfully spayed female or a successfully neutered male dog 15.00
For a kennel, which shall mean ten dog or more 85.00
In addition to the kennel fee of \$85, each dog shall have separate tags of the correct gender at the above fee schedule

Duplication of licenses 1.00

Said license tax shall be payable during the month of January of each year not later than January thirty-first and shall be paid to the treasurer of the City.

(b) If a dog becomes four months of age or comes into the possession of any person between January 1 and November 30 of any year, the license tax for the current calendar year shall be paid by the owner.

(c) If a dog becomes four months of age or comes into the possession of any person between December 01 and December 31 of any year, the license tax for the succeeding calendar year shall be paid by the owner and this license shall be valid from the date the license is purchased.

(d) No license tax shall be levied on any dog owner moving into the city who provides to the treasurer a valid dog license issued by another political subdivision of Virginia and a valid certificate of rabies vaccination. However, such owners will be required to obtain a current Harrisonburg dog license within 60 days, for which a fee of one dollar (\$1) will be imposed.

(e) Refunds will not be issued for license(s) issued which become unnecessary after purchase.

(f) License tax is not transferable to other animals.

(g) No license tax shall be levied on any dog that is trained and serves as a guide dog for a blind person, that is trained and serves as a hearing dog for a deaf or hearing impaired person or that is trained and serves as a service dog for a mobility-impaired person. However, such owners will be required to have a current Harrisonburg dog license which will be issued without charge by the treasurer upon receipt of the license application and satisfactory proof of the disability of the owner or custodian of the dog and the dog's training as required in this Chapter. As used in this section, a hearing dog means a dog trained to alert its owner by touch to sounds of danger and sounds to which the owner should respond; and service dog means a dog trained to accompany its owner for the

purpose of carrying items, retrieving objects, pulling a wheelchair, or other such activities of service or support.

(h) The first violation of this section with respect to spayed or neutered animal shall constitute a class 4 misdemeanor. Subsequent violations of this section with respect to the same spayed or neutered animal within a one (1) year period, and all violations of this section with respect to non-spayed or non-neutered animals, shall constitute a class 3 misdemeanor, to be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than the maximum permissible by state law.

**15-2-9.
SAME - TAG EVIDENCING LICENSING**

The owner of any dog shall attach to the collar or harness of such dog the current license tag issued by the Treasurer. Such collar or harness and tag shall be worn by the dog at all times such dog is off the premises of the owner.

**15-2-10.
UNAUTHORIZED REMOVAL OF COLLAR AND TAGS**

It shall be unlawful for any person, except the owner or custodian to remove or cause to be removed the collar, license tag, rabies tag or any identification tag from a companion animal.

**15-2-11
IMPOUNDMENT OF UNVACCINATED CATS AND DOGS**

(a) It shall be the duty of the animal control officer or other investigating officer to take temporary control of any cat or dog which has not been vaccinated as provided in Section 15-2-6. Cost of caring for the animal while under the temporary control of the investigating officer shall be charged to the custodian of the animal. The investigating officer shall ensure that the animal is cared for in accordance with standards prescribed by the state veterinarian and state law.

(b) Any dog or cat impounded under this section which is not rabid or suspected of being rabid may be released from impoundment at any time, once the owner (i) pays the cost of caring for the animal and any other applicable fines or fees, and (ii) provides proof of a current rabies vaccination, and (iii) obtain all licenses required under this chapter.

**15-2-12.
CONFINEMENT AND DISPOSITION OF STRAY ANIMALS**

Section 3.1-796.96 of the Code of Virginia is adopted as if fully set forth herein, and as from time to time amended by the General Assembly, except that, in the event of a declared emergency, whether declared by federal, state or local authority, the minimum holding period shall be extended two weeks in addition to that required by state law.

**15-2-13.
CONFINEMENT OF DOG OR CAT THAT HAS BITTEN A PERSON**

Upon information to the Harrisonburg Police Department that a dog or cat has bitten a person, it shall be the duty of the investigating officer upon ascertaining the identity of such animal, to direct it to be confined for a period of ten (10) days, such confinement to be either (i) in the SPCA kennel, or; (ii) in a kennel approved by the Animal Control Officer, or; (iii) by the owner if all provisions of Title 15, Chapter 2 of the Harrisonburg City Code have been complied with, with respect to the animal. The person who owns or controls such dog or cat shall bear the cost of such confinement. It shall

further be the duty of the investigating officer, after directing that such dog or cat be confined, to notify the local health official of such confinement. The animal may be released to its owner only after the completion of the confinement period required by this section and the approval of the health department official.

15-2-14.

CONFINEMENT OR DESTRUCTION OF COMPANION ANIMALS SUSPECTED OF HAVING RABIES

(a) Dogs and cats found within the city suspected of having rabies or exhibiting the common symptoms of such disease by an animal control officer, other investigating officer, State Veterinarian's representative or official of the Department of Health shall be impounded as directed by the director of health for such time as may be necessary to determine whether they are afflicted with rabies.

(b) At the time any such dog or cat, is impounded, an attempt shall be made to discover whether or not the animal has been vaccinated previously against rabies. If it is found that such dog or cat and has not been vaccinated effectively, then such animal shall be so vaccinated on the last day of the observation period described in paragraph (a) above.

(c) The animal control officer, law enforcement officer, State Veterinarian's representative or official of the Department of Health may cause to be destroyed humanely any companion animal which, in his opinion, has rabies or is in need of confinement pursuant to paragraph (a) above but such confinement is impossible or impracticable.

(d) All expenses in connection with the provision of this section shall be borne by the owner of the dog or cat in question.

15-2-15.

HUMANE DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS

Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the immediate destruction of a critically injured, critically ill or unweaned animal by an animal control officer or law enforcement officer for humane purposes. Any animal destroyed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be euthanized by one of the methods prescribed or approved by the State Veterinarian.

15-2-16.

ABANDONMENT

(a) No owner of an animal shall abandon such animal. For the purpose of this section, abandonment shall include:

(i) Leaving any dog, cat or other domestic or companion animal in any public place including any public right-of-way, highway, road or street or on the property of another; or

(ii) An owner's failure to do the following within the time limit set forth in Section 3.1-796.96 of the Code of Virginia, after receiving notice that his or her domestic or companion animal has been impounded:

A. Redeem said animal and pay impounding and veterinary fees; or

B. Surrender said animal to the city in writing and pay impounding and veterinary fees.

(b) Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor. A second conviction constitutes a class 2 misdemeanor.

15-2-17.
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

(a) Any person who

(i) overrides, overdrives, overloads, tortures, ill-treats, abandons, willfully inflicts inhumane injury or pain not connected with bona fide scientific or medical experimentation, or cruelly or unnecessarily beats, maims, mutilates, or kills any animal, whether belonging to himself or another; or

(ii) deprives any animal of necessary food, drink, shelter or emergency veterinary treatment; or

(iii) willfully sets on foot, instigates, engages in, or in any way furthers any act of cruelty to any animal; or

(iv) carries or causes to be carried in or upon any vehicle, vessel or otherwise any animal in a cruel, brutal, or inhumane manner, so as to produce torture or unnecessary suffering; or

(v) causes any of the above things, or being the owner of such animal permits such acts to be done by another, shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

(b) Any person who

(i) tortures, willfully inflicts inhumane injury or pain not connected with bona fide scientific or medical experimentation, or cruelly and unnecessarily beats, maims, mutilates or kills any animal whether belonging to himself or another; or

(ii) instigates, engages in, or in any way furthers any act of cruelty to any animal set forth in clause (i) of this subsection; or

(iii) causes any of the actions described in subdivisions (i) and (ii) of this subsection, or being the owner of such animal permits such acts to be done by another; and has been within five years convicted of a violation of this subsection or subsection (a), shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony if the current violation or any previous violation of this subsection or subsection (a) resulted in the death of an animal or the euthanasia of an animal based on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian upon determination that such euthanasia was necessary due to the condition of the animal, and such condition was a direct result of a violation of this subsection or subsection (a).

(c) Any person who abandons any dog, cat or other domesticated animal in any public place including the right-of-way of any public highway, road or street or on the property of another shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the dehorning of cattle.

(e) For the purposes of this section, the word animal shall be construed to include birds and fowl.

(f) This section shall not prohibit authorized wildlife management activities or hunting, fishing or trapping as regulated under other titles of the Code of Virginia including, but not limited to Title 29.1, or to farming activities as provided under Code of Virginia Title 3.1 or regulations promulgated thereto.

(g) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection (a), the court may, in its discretion, require any person convicted of a violation of subsection (a) to attend an anger management or other appropriate treatment program or obtain psychiatric or psychological counseling. The court may impose the costs of such a program or counseling upon the person convicted.

(h) It is unlawful for any person to kill a domestic dog or cat for the purpose of obtaining the hide, fur or pelt of the dog or cat. A violation of this subsection shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor. A second or subsequent violation of this subsection shall constitute a Class 6 felony.

(i) Any person who tortures, willfully inflicts inhumane injury or pain not connected with bona fide scientific or medical experimentation or cruelly and unnecessarily beats, maims or mutilates any dog or cat that is a companion animal whether belonging to himself or another and (ii) as a direct result causes the death of such dog or cat that is a companion animal, or the euthanasia of such animal on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian upon determining that such euthanasia was necessary due to the condition of the animal, shall be guilty of a class 6 felony.

15-2-18.

DANGEROUS AND VICIOUS DOGS

(a) As used in this section, "dangerous dog" means a canine or canine crossbreed which has bitten, attacked, or inflicted injury on a person or companion animal, other than a dog, or killed a companion animal, and "vicious dog" means a canine or canine crossbreed which has

(i) killed a person;

(ii) inflicted serious injury to a person, including multiple bites, serious disfigurement, serious impairment of health, or serious impairment of a bodily function; or

(iii) continued to exhibit the behavior which resulted in a previous finding by a court that it is a dangerous dog, provided that its owner has been given notice of that finding.

(b) The animal control officer may determine, after investigation, whether a dog is a dangerous dog. If the animal control officer determines that a dog is a dangerous dog, he may order the animal's owner to comply with the provisions of the ordinance. If the animal's owner disagrees with the animal control officer's determination, he may appeal the determination to the general district court for a trial on the merits. If the animal control officer determines that the owner or custodian can confine the animal in a manner that protects the public safety, he may permit the owner or custodian to confine the animal until such time as evidence shall be heard and a verdict rendered. The court, through its contempt powers, may compel the owner, custodian or harbinger of the animal to produce the animal. If, after hearing the evidence, the court finds that the animal is a dangerous dog, the court shall order the animal's owner to comply with the provisions of the ordinance. If, after hearing the evidence, the court finds that the animal is a vicious dog, the court shall order the animal euthanized in accordance with the provisions of Code of Virginia §3.1-796.119.

(c) No animal shall be found to be a dangerous dog or vicious dog if the threat, injury or damage was sustained by a person who was

(i) committing, at the time, a crime upon the premises occupied by the animal's owner or custodian,

(ii) committing, at the time, a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises occupied by the animal's owner or custodian, or

(iii) provoking, tormenting, or physically abusing the animal, or can be shown to have repeatedly provoked, tormented, abused, or assaulted the animal at other times. No police dog which was engaged in the performance of its duties as such at the time of the acts complained of shall be found to be a dangerous dog or a vicious dog. No animal which, at the time of the acts complained of, was responding to pain or injury, or was protecting itself, its kennel, its offspring, or its owner or owner's property, shall be found to be a dangerous dog or a vicious dog.

(d) The owner of any animal found to be a dangerous dog shall, within ten days of such finding, obtain a dangerous dog registration certificate from the Treasurer for a fee of fifty dollars in addition to other fees that may be authorized by law. The Treasurer shall also issue the owner a uniformly designed tag which identifies the animal as a dangerous dog. The owner shall affix the tag to the animal's collar and ensure that the animal wears the collar and tag at all times. All certificates obtained pursuant to this subdivision shall be renewed annually for the same fee and in the same manner as the initial certificate was obtained.

(e) All certificates or renewals thereof required to be obtained under this section shall only be issued to persons eighteen years of age or older who present to the animal control officer:

(i) satisfactory evidence of the animal's current rabies vaccination and dog registration required under Section 15-2-9, and;

(ii) satisfactory evidence that the animal is and will be confined in a proper enclosure or inside the owner's residence. The animal may be temporarily enclosed in the owner's fenced-in yard provided the animal is muzzled and the fence is of adequate height and design to keep the animal in the yard, and;

(iii) a color photograph clearly showing the animal, and;

(iv) satisfactory evidence the animal has been permanently identified by means of a tattoo on the inside thigh or by electronic implantation.

(v) their residence is and will continue to be posted with clearly visible signs warning both minors and adults of the presence of a dangerous dog on the property.

(f) While on the property of its owner, an animal found to be a dangerous dog shall be confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked structure of sufficient height and design to prevent its escape or direct contact with or entry by minors, adults, or other animals. The structure shall be designed to provide the animal with shelter from the elements of nature. When off its owner's property, an animal found to be a dangerous dog shall be kept on a leash and muzzled in such a

manner as not to cause injury to the animal or interfere with the animal's vision or respiration, but so as to prevent it from biting a person or another animal.

(g) If the owner of an animal found to be a dangerous dog is a minor, the custodial parent or legal guardian shall be responsible for complying with all requirements of this section.

(h) After an animal has been found to be a dangerous dog, the animal's owner shall immediately, upon learning of same, notify the local animal control authority if the animal

(i) is loose or unconfined;

(ii) bites a person or attacks another animal;

(iii) is sold, given away, or dies; or

(iv) has been moved to a different address.

(i) The owner of any animal which has been found to be a dangerous dog who willfully fails to comply with the requirements of the ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

(j) All fees collected pursuant to the ordinance, less the costs incurred by the animal control authority in producing and distributing the certificates and tags required by the ordinance, shall be paid into a special dedicated fund in the treasury of the locality for the purpose of paying the expenses of any training course required under Code of Virginia § 3.1-796.104:1.

(k) All certificates or renewals thereof required to be obtained under this section shall present satisfactory evidence that the animal has been neutered or spayed.

(l) All certificates or renewals thereof required under this section shall only be issued to persons who present satisfactory evidence that the owner has liability insurance coverage, to the value of at least \$100,000, that covers animal bites.

15-2-19. HYBRID CANINES

(a) Definitions

As used in this Section:

"Adequate confinement" means that, while on the property of its owner and not under the direct supervision and control of the owner or custodian, a hybrid canine shall be confined in a humane manner in a securely enclosed and locked structure of sufficient height and design to

prevent the animal's escape; or if the hybrid canine is determined to be a dangerous dog pursuant to 3.1-796.93:1, the structure shall prevent direct contact with any person or animal not authorized by the owner to be in direct contact with the hybrid canine, and

provide a minimum of 100 square feet of floor space for each adult animal. Tethering of a hybrid canine not under the direct supervision and control of the owner or custodian shall not be considered adequate confinement.

"Hybrid canine" means any animal which at any time has been or is permitted, registered, licensed, advertised or otherwise described or represented as a hybrid canine, wolf or coyote by its owner to a licensed veterinarian, law-enforcement officer, animal control officer, official of the Department of Health, or State Veterinarian's representative.

"Responsible ownership" means the ownership and humane care of a hybrid canine in such a manner as to comply with all laws and ordinances regarding hybrid canines and prevent endangerment by the animal to public health and safety.

(b) The owner of a hybrid canine shall, by the time the animal is four (4) months old, obtain a hybrid canine registration certificate from the Treasurer for a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) if the animal is spayed or neutered, fifty dollar (\$50.00) if not, in addition to other fees that may be authorized by law. The Treasurer shall also issue the owner with a uniformly designed tag which identifies the

animal as a hybrid canine in lieu of the dog license required in Section 15-2-8. The owner shall affix the tag to the animal's collar and ensure that the animal wears the collar and tag at all times. All certificates obtained pursuant to this subdivision shall be renewed annually for the same fee and in the same manner as the initial certificate was obtained.

(c) All certificates or renewals thereof required to be obtained under this section shall only be issued to persons eighteen years of age or older who present to the animal control officer:

- (i) satisfactory evidence of the animal's current rabies vaccination, and;
- (ii) satisfactory evidence that the animal is and will be confined in a proper enclosure, inside the owner's residence or in the owner's fenced-in yard, with the fence being of adequate height and design to keep the animal in the yard, and;
- (iii) a color photograph clearly showing the animal, and;
- (iv) satisfactory evidence the animal has been permanently identified by means of a tattoo on the inside thigh or by electronic implantation.

(d) The owner of any hybrid canine who willfully fails to comply with the requirements of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor for the first violation and a Class 1 misdemeanor for a second or a subsequent violation.

(e) All fees collected pursuant to the ordinance, less the costs incurred by the Treasurer in producing and distributing the certificates and tags required by this ordinance, shall be paid into a special dedicated fund in the City treasury for the purpose of paying the expenses of any training course required under Code of Virginia § 3.1-796.104:1.

15-2-20.

KEEPING, TRANSPORTING AND TRAPPING OF ANIMALS

(a) Transportation or importation of wildlife into the city from other areas is prohibited, unless such animal is subject to a permit or license issued by an appropriate authority.

(b) Prior to utilizing any trap set for the capture of wild or fur bearing animal, the person acquiring such trap must first acquire any required permit issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries pursuant to Virginia Code, Section 29-300.1, as amended. A permit is not required for capture of stray domestic animals, mice, rats or other nuisance rodents, skunks, rabbits or groundhogs upon private property.

(c) No person may interfere with the lawful use of an animal trap. This subsection shall not apply to law enforcement officials in the performance of their duties. Traps placed either on city property or private property without the written consent of the property owner shall be confiscated and become the property of the city.

(d) Each trap must be clearly marked with the trapper's name, address and telephone number.

(e) Steel leg hold traps may not be used within the City, unless permitted by state law.

(f) All domesticated animals trapped off the property of their owner shall be turned over to and impounded by the animal control officer or other investigating officer.

(g) Any wildlife captured within the City shall be released on site if their capture was inadvertent or disposed of in a method approved of by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

15-2-21

ADOPTION OF STATE LAW

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.1-796.94 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended from time to time, all of the provisions and requirements of the Comprehensive Animal Laws of the Code of Virginia, except those which by their very nature cannot have application within the City, are hereby

adopted and made part of this Chapter as if fully set out herein, and are hereby made applicable within the City, unless the subject and content of such State law is specifically addressed in this Chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person, within the City, to violate, fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any section of the Comprehensive Animal Laws of the Code of Virginia, as adopted by this Section.

15-2-22.
VIOLATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER

All violations of this Chapter shall be unlawful acts and constitute a Class 4 misdemeanors, unless otherwise provided in this Chapter.

15-2-23
ENFORCEMENT OF CHAPTER

The provisions of this Chapter 2, shall be enforced by the police department through the animal control officer and other law enforcement officers. Any person who shall interfere with or obstruct or resist any officer in the discharge of his rights, powers and duties as authorized and prescribed by law shall be punished in accordance with state law.